

REMARKS

Assignee respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks. Assignee amends claim 1 to correct a grammatical issue and to more accurately set forth the operation of the virtual camera script, without prejudice or disclaimer of previously recited subject matter.

Rejection of Claims 1-8 and 10-28 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8 and 10-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sezan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,236,395) (“Sezan et al.”) in view of Chen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,307,550) (“Chen et al.”), Jain et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,144,375) (“Jain et al.”) and further in view of Slezak (U.S. Patent No. 6,006,257) (“Slezak”). This ground of rejection is traversed.

Claim 1 recites a method for generating a customized coded video sequence. The method includes extracting image data from a plurality of still images, deriving virtual camera scripts from the image data, and generating a video sequence based on the derived virtual camera scripts, wherein a virtual camera script comprises a set of image processing instructions that simulates selected camera movement over portions of the still images. See specification at pages 4 – 5 (virtual camera script includes sliding window of resolution, panorama synthesis by simulated camera rotation, etc.).

Sezan does not relate to such a method or disclose these limitations. Sezan is directed to a system that manages a user’s consumption of available audiovisual information. Sezan is based on providing three description schemes: a program description scheme that provides information regarding the content of a program; a user description scheme that provides information regarding a user’s preferences relating to particular programs, categorization of programs that the user prefers to view, as well as personal user information such as demographic

and geographic information, and a system description scheme that manages the individual programs by maintaining lists of programs, channels, categories, users, videos, audio and images.

Sezan provides an example of how the device would be used, at col. 9, line 34 – col. 10, line 37. The system autonomously obtains and records audiovisual information of interest to the user based on the three description schemes. The user starts interacting with the system by voice or pointer command to indicate a desire to view certain recorded programs. The system may generate highlights of certain programs by audio or video analysis of the frames of data and present the highlight segments to the user.

Sezan does not disclose deriving virtual camera scripts and coding hints from the image data, wherein the derived virtual camera script comprises a set of image processing instructions that simulates selected camera movement over portions of the still images, as recited in claim 1. Sezan does not manipulate still images using a virtual camera script at all. Neither does Sezan generate a video sequence based on the subscriber's input, the extracted image data, and the derived virtual camera scripts and coding hints; or code a generated video sequence. Sezan merely plays back or outputs the recorded audiovisual programming on an output device. Col. 7, lines 30 – 49 of Sezan (relied upon in the Office action) does not disclose coding of a generated video sequence as alleged, but to the contrary describes matching of viewing system capabilities with program description information to determine whether particular type of views can be supported by the viewing system. No coding of any generated video sequence is described by Sezan.

Chen discloses a system for generating photographs from a video. Chen does not fill in any gap present in the Sezan system as it relates to the claimed invention herein. The particular processes described in Chen for analyzing segments of video frames, combining the segments to generate a photograph, and stitching images together, simply is irrelevant to the Sezan

audiovisual content management system. A user may wish to extract a photographic image from some video content stored in the Sezan system and might use the Chen system to do so, but such has no relevance to any limitation set forth in claim 1.

Similarly, the Jain reference is irrelevant to the Sezan information management system. Jain pertains to methods and apparatus for viewing a real-world environment, or in other words enabling a viewer to selectively and dynamically view video information of a particular scene from a variety of viewing perspectives. Again, this has no relevance whatsoever to the Sezan information management system wherein a user's preferences are considered in filtering, condensing, highlighting and presenting to the user video content from a universe of recorded video programming that the user would prefer and desired to view. Sezan does not relate to multi-perspective video imaging of a real-world three dimensional environment and thus there would be no reason to attempt to modify Sezan with the Jain disclosure.

Finally, Slezak relates to interleaving advertisement programming with on-demand interactive programming selected by a user, and fails to cure the fundamental shortcomings of Sezan with respect to the features of the claimed invention as explained above. No combination of Slezak with Sezan, Jain or Chen could result in the claimed invention.

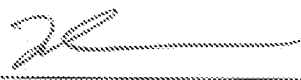
Inasmuch as none of the prior art references relied upon adequately suggest or disclose the invention as recited in independent claim 1, none of the dependent claims is rendered unpatentable by the prior art of record either.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all rejections and objections, the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If necessary, the Commissioner for Patents is authorized to charge or credit the **Novak, Druce & Quigg, LLP, Account No. 14-1437** for any deficiency or overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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